

ARKANSAS BROILER HATCHERY



ARKANSAS
AGRICULTURAL
STATISTICS SERVICE

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NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS SERVICE
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ARKANSAS CHICK PLACEMENTS UP 2 PERCENT FROM LAST YEAR

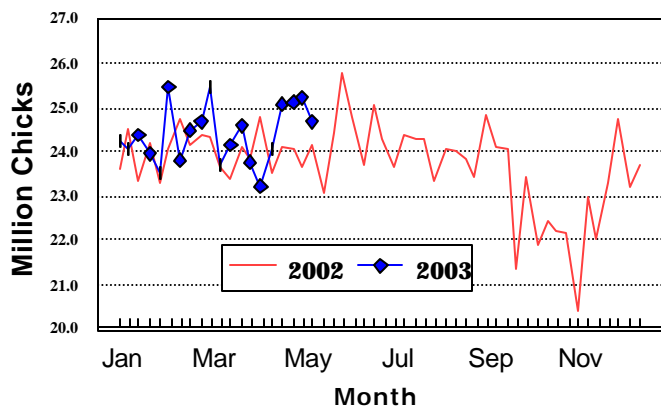
Broiler-type chicks placed for meat production in Arkansas was 24.7 million during the week ending May 17, 2003. Placements were up 2 percent from comparable week in 2002, but down 2 percent from the revised previous week, and included 3.0 million chicks shipped in from other states. Cumulative placements from December 29, 2002 through May 17, 2003 were 487.8 million, up 2 percent from the same period a year earlier.

The broiler-type chicks hatched for the week was 25.8 million, up slightly from the corresponding week a year earlier, and up 1 percent from the revised previous week. Of the total hatch, 3.7 million chicks were shipped out of the state. Average hatchability for chicks hatched was 83.5 percent.

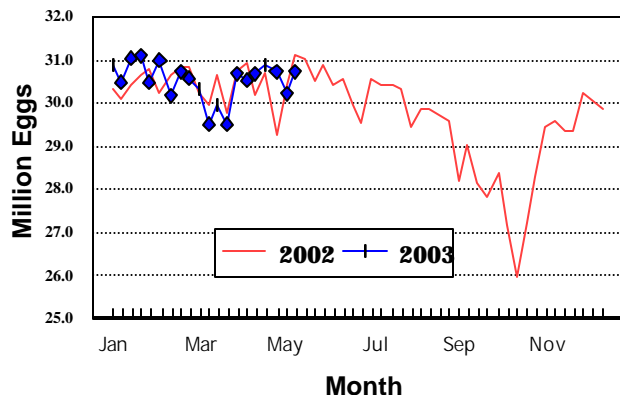
Arkansas hatcheries set 30.7 million broiler-type eggs during the week ending May 17, 2003, down 1 percent from the same period last year, but up 2 percent from the previous week.

Week Ending	NET PLACEMENTS			CHICKS HATCHED			EGGS SET		
	2002	2003	% Change	2002	2003	% Change	2002	2003	% Change
	1,000			1,000			1,000		
Apr. 12	24,801	23,255	94	25,468	24,831	98	30,962	30,527	99
Apr. 19	23,507	24,054	102	24,659	24,651	100	30,175	30,670	102
Apr. 26	24,099	25,096	104	25,454	25,456	100	30,698	30,900	101
May 3	24,077	25,120	104	25,694	25,470	99	29,253	30,764	105
May 10	23,651	25,204	107	25,216	25,441	101	30,436	30,235	99
May 17	24,175	24,690	102	25,713	25,804	100	31,108	30,748	99

CHICKS PLACED IN ARKANSAS, 2002-2003



EGGS SET, 2002 - 2003



BROILER EGGS SET AND CHICKS PLACED IN 19 MAJOR STATES BY WEEKS, 2003

STATE	EGGS SET (in Thousands)					CHICKS PLACED (in Thousands)						
	Week Ending				1/	Week Ending						1/
	26-Apr	03-May	10-May	17-May	%	12-Apr	19-Apr	26-Apr	03-May	10-May	17-May	%
Alabama	28,370 *	28,660	28,450	28,809	98	21,439	21,359	21,554	21,936	21,208	21,681	101
ARKANSAS	30,900	30,764	30,235	30,748	99	23,255	24,054	25,096	25,120	25,204 *	24,690	102
Delaware	3,634	3,699	3,680	3,672	98	4,973	5,266	5,899	5,821	5,298 *	5,376	120
Florida	1,731	1,643	1,597 *	1,529	64	1,892	1,638	1,634	1,651	1,859 *	1,899	82
Georgia	31,677 *	31,864	31,950 *	32,674	100	25,162	23,803 *	25,688	26,357	24,673 *	24,555	95
Kentucky	6,561 *	6,659	5,651	6,376	94	5,945	5,717	6,071	5,164	5,654	5,341	105
Maryland	9,613	9,583	9,626	9,580	95	6,341	5,945	5,600	5,744	6,278 *	5,675	89
Mississippi	18,575	19,109	18,766	19,380	101	16,425	16,572	16,549	16,217	16,277	16,014	106
N. Carolina	19,184 *	18,815	18,937	18,933	96	15,268	15,033	14,780	15,077	15,184	15,019	96
Oklahoma	6,511	6,498	6,015	6,508	96	5,474	4,389	4,424	4,181	4,394	5,105	113
Pennsylvania	3,670	3,627 *	3,687 *	3,419	88	2,565	2,679	2,637	2,691 *	2,646 *	2,478	92
S. Carolina	4,771	4,858	5,018	4,979	104	3,498	4,088	4,206	3,424	4,282	4,245	112
Texas	15,016	15,050	15,066	15,080	98	11,890	12,317	12,407	12,586	12,646	12,574	103
Virginia	6,628	6,626	6,622	6,621	101	5,149	5,506	5,986	5,849	5,945	5,806	104
CALAMO,IN,WV	21,018	21,421	20,546 *	20,711	100	19,449	18,265 *	18,361 *	19,664 *	18,853 *	19,564	90
Total 2003	207,859 *	208,876 *	205,846 *	209,019		168,725	166,631 *	170,892 *	171,482 *	170,401 *	170,022	
Total 2002	210,178	209,812	211,162	213,431		169,829	168,903	172,792	172,635	172,081	171,004	
% Prev. Year	99	100	97	98		99	99	99	99	99	99	
Approximate Marketing Date 2003.....	31-May	07-Jun	14-Jun	21-Jun	28-Jun	05-Jul						

* Revised . 1/ Current week as percent of the same week last year.

EGGS SET IN 19 SELECTED STATES DOWN 2 PERCENT

Commercial hatcheries in the 19-state weekly program set 209 million eggs during the week ending May 17, 2003. This was down 2 percent from the eggs set the corresponding week a year earlier. Average hatchability for chicks hatched during the week was 83 percent. Average hatchability is calculated by dividing chicks hatched during the week by eggs set three weeks earlier.

BROILER CHICKS PLACED DOWN 1 PERCENT

Broiler growers in the 19-state weekly program placed 170 million chicks for meat production during the week ending May 17, 2003. Placements were down 1 percent from the comparable week a year earlier. Cumulative placements from December 29, 2002 through May 17, 2003 were 3.34 billion, down 2 percent from the same period a year earlier.